

I. ONE THING—The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

II. MEDITATION

A. Review your class notes from Tuesday.

- Take some time to think about the main ideas of the lesson. If you want to add details to your notes, you'll find the audio message on our website under the Resources tab. (www.DivineDesignDiscipleship.com).
- Which of the scriptures referenced were particularly meaningful to you? Write out those verses below and spend some time studying them this week.

B. Rewrite your One Thing into a prayer, expressing your heart's desire for God to make this truth become your experience.

III. PRINCIPLES

Jesus is the name above all names. Meditate on these principles this week to gain greater understanding of all that His name implies:

A. The Christ

- Christ is the name by which Jesus was first introduced to His disciples: Jn 1:41— (Andrew) first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ).
- From John Gill’s Exposition of the Bible: “Messiah: this Hebrew word is interpreted by the Greek word, “Christ”; and both signify ‘anointed’, and well agree with the person to whom they belong, to which there is an allusion in SS 1:3—‘Thy name is as ointment poured forth’ He was anointed from everlasting to be...king.” (Ps 2:6)
- So to call Jesus the Christ means that He is God’s Anointed King: Mk 8:28 TV--Who do you say that I am? Peter: You are God’s Anointed, *the Liberating King*.
- Isaiah, when prophesying about Jesus, spoke of His royal rule: Is 9:1-7 NIV-- There will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the day of Midian’s defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior’s boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.
- He reigns in power: Is 40:10 NIV-- See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.
- He is a Rewarder! How exciting that is one of God’s Names and traits! Heb 11:6-- But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
- He came to seek us out. Now He desires that we seek Him and His presence.
- Jesus, Messiah, the Christ, our Liberating King has set us free from sin so that we may boldly approach His throne: Heb 4:16 NLT--So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God.

Insights:

B. The Open Door

- John approached the throne room and sought out the reward of Jesus’ presence when he was given this awesome revelation: Rev 4:1-2 TV--I saw a door standing open in heaven and heard again the first voice that sounded like a trumpet. A Voice: Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after this. Immediately I was *caught up* in the Spirit, and I saw a throne that stood in heaven and One seated on the throne.
- John gave us so many amazing and beautiful descriptions of King Jesus in the book of Revelation. These were a reward of John’s seeking and priceless gifts to us as well:

1. Providing pictures of our heavenly home, the place of our citizenship: Heb 13:14 NLT-- This world is not our permanent home
2. Aiding us in our worship: When we see the beauty and glory of our Liberating King, our hearts cannot help but respond with spontaneous worship: Rev 4:2a MSG--I was caught up at once in deep worship
3. Assuring us of His availability to us: Mt 6:6-- When you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.
4. Inviting us deeper: We have access to the Kingdom of Heaven and it is a place of deep personal fellowship with Jesus. That fellowship is the foundation of our transformation: 1 Jn 3:2 MSG-- In seeing him, (we) become like him.
5. Helping us recalibrate our thoughts, emotions, and desires with His will: Mt 6:10—Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
6. Pointing us to His goodness: We are joint heirs with a gracious, kind, and benevolent king. King Jesus is represented in the Old Testament by Melchizedek:
 - Rom 8:17 NLT-- Together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory.
 - Heb 7:2-3 NCV-- Melchizedek's name means "king of goodness," and he is king of Salem, which means "king of peace." No one knows who Melchizedek's father or mother was, where he came from, when he was born, or when he died. Melchizedek is like the Son of God.

Let's grow bolder and more consistent in engaging with Christ the Liberating King. Pray for eyes to see the rewards of following Him "in the land": Is 61:7-8 NIV--Instead of disgrace you will rejoice in your inheritance. And so you will inherit a double portion in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours. For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In my faithfulness I will reward my people and make an everlasting covenant

Insights:

C. The Table Set

- We see something somewhat surprising in John's description of the splendor of the Kingdom of Heaven--Satan is in the presence of God accusing us: Rev 12:10 NIV-- Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.
- Yet we see in other places in Scripture that this is part of God's plan all along:
 - Ps 110:1-3 MSG-- The word of God to my Lord: "Sit alongside me here on my throne until I make your enemies a stool for your feet." You were forged a strong scepter by God of Zion; now rule, though surrounded by enemies! Your people will freely join you, resplendent in holy armor on the great day of your conquest
 - Ps 23:5-- You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies
- There's tension: wars and upheaval are in the world yet our Liberating King rules! Eph 1:20-21-- He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.
- Dominion--the power or right of governing & controlling; sovereign authority (Dictionary.com)
- King Jesus has dominion over all things. That means believers have a choice:
 - *Will we live from our earthly circumstances or from the reality of the Kingdom of Heaven where we are citizens?*
 - *Will we take our cues from the world, or the Accuser, or from a different domain?*

- Even though there is ongoing war, when King Jesus ascended to heaven He sat down: Heb 12:2—He sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- That is an option for us, too! The Door is open and the Table is set. *Will we sit down? Will we receive all that He has prepared for us in His presence?*
- We can turn our eyes toward our beautiful King Jesus and tune our ears to His words. Or not. It is a matter of choice.
- When we choose to fix our eyes and ears on Jesus, we find His rest. God even promised to make our enemies a footstool!
 - Acts 2:35 MSG-- God said to my Master, “Sit at my right hand Until I make your enemies a stool for resting your feet.”
 - Eph 1:22 NIV-- God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church
- Because all things are under the feet of our Liberating King, we win! We join His:
 - Procession of victory: 2 Cor 2:14-- Now thanks *be* to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.
 - Progression of victory: Ps 84:7--They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion.
- We grow in freedom and fullness as we rest at His table, feet on the footstool:
 - Living out of our true identity as children of God. (Jn 1:12)
 - Connecting with His purposes for our lives—glory! (Is 43:7)
 - Receiving a greater release of His covenantal blessings to us. (Rom 8:17)
 - Seeking intimacy more wholeheartedly: Jer 24:7-- Then I will give them a heart to know Me, that I *am* the Lord; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God, for they shall return to Me with their whole heart.
- Take some time to think about all that is available to you when you choose to enter the presence of the King and fellowship at His banqueting table.
- Col 3:1-4 Phillips-- If you are then “risen” with Christ, reach out for the highest gifts of Heaven, where your master reigns in power. Give your heart to the heavenly things, not to the passing things of earth. For, as far as this world is concerned, you are already dead, and your true life is a hidden one in Christ. One day, Christ, the secret centre of our lives, will show himself openly, and you will all share in that magnificence

Insights:

IV. PERSONALIZATION

A. Cultivate intimacy with God by connecting with Him daily by journaling:

- Find a quiet spot
- Fix your eyes of Jesus
- Find the flow of God’s voice (sounds like spontaneous, biblical thoughts)
- Facilitate communication by journaling

B. Spend time in God’s presence through prayer and song using the names of God.

C. Get to know God better by meditating on His names using the Nuggets” booklet.

- Ask the Lord “Who do You want to be for me?” in my day, issue, or season.

D. Keep a written record of how God ministers to you this week. Come back ready to share what you’ve experienced.